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The method of claim ~~16~~ wherein said porous structure comprises a metal foam. --

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending. By the foregoing amendment, claim 15 has been amended. Claims 7-9 have been canceled. New claims 16-17 have been added. Support for the new claims can be found at page 8, lines 8-17 and elsewhere in the specification.

If the Examiner has any questions or would like to speak to Applicants' representative, the Examiner is encouraged to call Applicants' attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Feb 25, 2000

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